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**LEEK RURAL DISTRICT  
COUNCIL**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

and the

**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

for the year 1958

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**November 1960**

Hill Bros. (Leek) Ltd., Haywood Street, Leek.



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# PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1958

## **Chairman:**

COUNCILLOR T. RILEY

## **Vice-Chairman:**

COUNCILLOR C. R. HEWLETT

## **Members:**

Councillor J. T. Barks	Councillor H. James
“ T. W. Buxton	“ H. Mear
“ C. R. Critchlow	“ H. Proctor
“ J. L. Findlow	“ Mrs. M. Robson
“ H. Ford	“ G. Shufflebotham
“ R. G. Grindon	“ Mrs. G. Sigley
“ H. Hommond	“ P. Smith
“ J. Horrison	“ J. G. Stubbs
“ J. W. Heothcote	“ E. Titterton
“ S. E. Hulme	“ A. E. Wood

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## **PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS**

### **Medical Officer of Health:**

H. KELSO WATSON, M.B. Ch.B.

### **Public Health Inspector**

D. K. PEDLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Certified Food Inspector

### **Additional Public Health Inspector:**

T. SPENCER, Cert. R.S.I.

## **OFFICES**

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 18, Stockwell Street, Leek, Staffs.  
(Tel.: Leek 1061)

# REPORT

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72,623 acres
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,904
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1958	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£114,034
Net product of 1d. rate for year ended 31/3/58	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£456/14/10
Estimated Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,680
Number of persons per acre	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.27

## INDUSTRIES

The main occupations of the inhabitants are farming and mining, but a substantial number of persons are employed in the Five Towns, in the silk mills in Leek, and in the quarries on the Derbyshire border.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	188	192	380
Illegitimate	1	7	8
	—	—	—
	189	199	388

Birthrate per 1,000 of the population—19.31

Stillbirths	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	1	8	9
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	1	8	9

Rate per 1,000 of the population—.45

Deaths (all ages)	M	F	TOTAL
	96	86	182

Death rate per 1,000 of the population—11.55

Deaths of Infants (Under 1 year)	M	F	TOTAL
Legitimate	4	4	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	—	—	—
	4	4	8

Death rate per 1,000 live births—25.83

## TUBERCULOSIS

The table below shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, and figures for the ten preceding years are given for comparison purposes.

	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1958	117	100	217	33	34	67	150	134	284
1957	113	98	211	33	34	67	146	132	278
1956	113	96	209	31	33	64	144	129	273
1955	112	90	202	29	31	60	141	121	262
1954	111	88	199	30	32	62	141	120	261
1953	107	87	194	29	31	60	136	118	254
1952	106	80	186	27	30	57	133	110	243
1951	102	77	179	27	29	56	129	106	235
1950	99	74	173	31	30	61	130	104	234
1949	96	71	167	31	30	61	127	101	228
1948	78	66	144	31	29	60	109	95	204

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The figures below show the Incidence of Infectious Diseases in 1958 in comparison to those of the three preceding years:

	1958	1957	1956	1955
Measles ... ..	58	107	174	190
Whooping Cough ... ..	5	80	33	22
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia ... ..	6	5	2	4
Scarlet Fever ... ..	15	14	12	8
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	1	2
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	6	5	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	7	—	4
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—
Puerpural Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection .	1	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (P.I.) .	—	2	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	4	6	1	1
Tuberculosis Pulmonary .	8	1	7	10
Tuberculosis Non-Pul. .	—	3	3	1
Total Cases ... ..	104	230	235	243

## Incidence of Infectious Diseases

Parishes	Measles	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Tuberculosis Pul.	Tuberculosis Non-Pul.
Alstonefield			1							
Bognall	19	1								
Brodnop				1						
Butterton										
Endon and Stanley	3		1	2		2	1		1	
Fawfieldhead								4		
Grindon										
Heathylee										
Heaton			1							
Hollinsclough										
Horton				3		2				
Ilam										
Leekfrith				2						
Longnor										
Longsdon	3					1				
Narton-in-the-Moars	30	2		7		1			6	
Onecote										
Quarnford		1			1					
Rushton	1	1							1	
Sheen	1									
Tittesworth										
Warslow and Elkstones	1									
Wettan										
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	58	5	6	15	1	6	1	4	8	—

### Months of Occurrence

January			1	1		1				
February		3	1	2		1				
March				1		1			2	
April			1	3					2	
May		1		2		2			1	
June				1	1		1			
July	2	1		1		1			1	
August	3		1	1						
September	3			1				4		
October	29			1					1	
November	7			1						
December	14		2						1	
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	58	5	6	15	1	6	1	4	8	—

# Age Incidence of Infectious Diseases

AGE GROUP	Measles		Whooping Cough		Pneumonia		Scarlet Fever		Meningococcal Infection		Dysentery		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	—	2		1																
1 to 2 years ...	5	5		2																
3 to 4 years ...	8	6	1				3	3			1									
5—9 years ...	19	9					5	3	1		1									
10—14 years ...	3	1	1				2	2												
15—24 years ...					1	1					1				1	1	3			
25—44 years ...					1	1					1				1	1	1	3		
45—64 years ...						2							1							
65 and over ...																				
Total (all ages) ...	35	23	2	3	2	4	10	5	—	1	3	3	—	1	2	2	5	3	—	—
TOTAL— Male and Female ...	58		5		6		15		1		6		1		4		8			

## Causes of Death in Leek Rural District 1958

Causes of Death						Males	Females
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Tuberculosis, Other	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Other malignant lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	4	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	15	26
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	...	20	11
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	—	5
Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	15	8
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	5	3
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Other disease of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	10	5
Motor Vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Total	all causes	...	...	...	...	96	86

# Sanitary inspection of the Area —

## Summary of Visits

### HOUSING:

(a) Inspection for defects ... ..	85
(b) Council House applicants .. ..	24
(c) Moveable dwellings ... ..	11
(d) Housing Inspections ... ..	114
(e) Improvement Grant applicants ... ..	146
(f) Rent Act ... ..	41
	<hr/>
	421

### GENERAL:

Inspection of premises for nuisances ... ..	103
Food premises ... ..	142
Slaughterhouses and knacker's yard ... ..	799
Drainage inspections ... ..	410
Privy conversions ... ..	183
Water supplies general ... ..	104
Samples of water taken ... ..	76
Shops ... ..	44
Refuse and nightsoil collection and disposal ... ..	219
Infectious diseases ... ..	34
Fumigations and Infestations ... ..	9
Rodent control ... ..	104
Factories ... ..	25
Petroleum stores ... ..	18
Swimming Pool ... ..	8
Miscellaneous ... ..	72
Air Pollution ... ..	7
Milk Supply ... ..	8
	<hr/>
	2786

### NOTICES SERVED

1.	Informal Notices ... ..	179
	Statutory Notices ... ..	—
2.	(a) Number of Nuisances Remedied .	83
	(b) Number of defective dwellings rendered fit following service of Statutory and Informal notices ...	51

## WATER SUPPLIES

### EASTERN PARISHES WATER SUPPLY

#### Section "A" Part 1

A further 25 connections were made to this scheme during the summer and autumn of this year, and at the end of the year the total connections were as follows:

	Domestic	Metered Supplies	Farm Troughs (Metered)
ALSTONEFIELD	50*	28	10
ILAM	12	6	6
WETTON	19	16	—
	<hr/> 81	<hr/> 50	<hr/> 16

(\*One stand-top serves 5 properties).

#### Section "A" Part 2

Tenders for this, the major portion of the Eastern parishes Scheme, were received in December, and it is hoped that an early start on this section will be made during 1959.

### HORTON, LONGSDON AND RUDYARD WATER SCHEME

Seven new connections were made during the year making a total of 173 properties now connected as follows:

	Domestic	Metered Supplies	Farm Troughs (Metered)
ENDON & STANLEY	12	1	—
HORTON	88	30	3
LONGSDON	29	8	2
	<hr/> 129	<hr/> 39	<hr/> 5

## SAMPLING OF WATER SUPPLIES

Forty-eight samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and nineteen for chemical analysis, the results of which are tabulated below:

Source	Bacteriological Examination			Chemical Analysis		
	No. of Samples Taken	Fit	Unfit	No. of Samples Taken	Fit	Unfit
Well	7	3	4	2	1	1
Spring	34	9	25	15	7	8
Borehole	7	3	4	2	2	—
Stream	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	48	15	33	19	10	9

In addition 10 samples of water were taken from the Longnor village supply to check for metallic contamination.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

An extension of some 400 yards to the sewer at Wilfield Lane, Brown Edge was carried out early in the year to serve twelve existing properties.

The load on the already overloaded Endon Sewage Disposal Works continues to increase with the resultant deterioration of the quality of the effluent.

Work proceeded satisfactorily on the extensions and improvements to the Baddeley Green and Norton Green works and completion is anticipated during next year.

## CONVERSION OF PRIVIES TO WATER CLOSETS

The Council makes contributions to property owners desirous of converting their toilets into water closets, the contribution being up to half the cost of the work with a maximum of £20. During the year 15 Applications were approved, the Council's total contribution for these being £297 10s.

As a result of a drive towards further conversions in the latter part of the year it is envisaged that a substantial number of applications will be forthcoming.

In December the redraining of nine properties forming Trent Terrace, Norton Green was commenced and the conversions will follow early in 1959.

Further to the above under the Improvement Grant conditions, 16 conversions were carried out as part of the improvements.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse and nightsoil is collected from dwellings in every parish of the district by direct labour and tipping is carried out at the various village tips which are levelled and tidied from time to time.

Tipping was commenced during the year on privately-owned land at Stockton Brook, the siting of which is such that much travelling time is now saved in this populated part of the district. Tipping here is carried out in a controlled manner, a whole-time attendant having been appointed for this purpose.

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## FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

### NUMBER OF FACTORIES ON REGISTER:—

Mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Non-Mechanical	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
										23

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE ... .. 25

Only two factories are of any size. In one instance an unsuitable sanitary convenience was noted and this was remedied during the year.

A small number of outworkers are employed, chiefly by the Silk Manufacturers in Leek and are concerned with the finishing of wearing apparel.

## HOUSING

### Action taken under the Housing Acts during the year

#### Demolition and Closing Orders:

Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal action under the Housing Acts .....	Nil
Parts of Buildings closed .....	Nil
Closing Orders made under Housing Act, 1957 .....	3

#### Repairs

Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit by informal action under the Public Health or Housing Acts .....	44
Number of houses where defects were remedied after service of formal notices under Public Health Acts	
(a) by owners .....	Nil
(b) by local authority .....	Nil
Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices under the Housing Acts.	
(a) by owners .....	Nil
(b) by local authority .....	Nil
Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 .....	Nil

#### Unfit houses in temporary use

Houses licensed for temporary occupation under Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 .....	Nil
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#### Purchase of houses by agreement

Houses purchased in Clearance Areas (other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders) .....	Nil
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### New Houses Erected During the Year

(a) By Private Enterprise .....	98
(b) By Local Authority .....	Nil

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98

## **Improvement Grants**

Number of applications received during the year ... ..	22
Number of applications in abeyance from previous year ...	2
	<hr/>
	24
Number of Improvement Grants made in respect of .	
(a) Improvements to existing houses ... ..	22
(b) Conversion of buildings into living accommodation	—
Total cost of work involved qualifying for grant ... ..	£13,196
Total value of improvement grants approved ... ..	£5,961
Number of Improvement Grant applications refused or withdrawn	1
Number of Improvement Grant applications in abeyance ... ..	1
Number of Improvement Works completed during the year ...	19

Of the 22 grants approved, 20 were in respect of owner-occupied property and 2 in respect of tenanted property.

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## **RODENT CONTROL**

The Public Sewers and Refuse Tips were treated as necessary and the rat population was kept to a minimum. Weather conditions hindered operations in so much as the sewers were frequently surcharged and baits placed outside quickly deteriorated.

The Council's Sewage Works were successfully treated on occasions throughout the year and the infestations kept under control.

The Council's free service for domestic premises was increasingly made us of and in appropriate cases as an economy measure, bait suitable for mice clearance was issued to householders.

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## **PETROLEUM ACTS**

Forty eight licences were issued for the bulk storage of 67,550 gallons of Petroleum spirit.

## MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

### Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

Carcases inspected	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	995	29	4368	729	—
Number inspected	995	29	4368	729	—
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	—	—	3	1	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	99	—	672	15	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	9.95	—	15.38	2.06	—
<b>Tuberculosis only:</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	80	—	—	27	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	8.04	—	—	3.70	—
<b>Cysticercosis</b>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	5	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ..	5	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

### MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED

Weight of Meat condemned due to:

(a) Tuberculosis ... ..	1,786 lbs.
(b) Other diseases or conditions ...	2,745 lbs.
	4,531 lbs.

### OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

1lb. Ox Tongue; 13lb. 5 oz. Ham; 4lb. Pressed Beef; 3lb. Corned Beef; 1lb. 12oz. Salmon; 3lb. 8oz. Tomatoes; 6lb. 6oz. Peaches.

# FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

## FOOD SHOPS AND PREPARING PREMISES

Seventy-two premises are registered under the Act for the sale of Ice Cream.

### Food Poisoning Outbreaks

Four cases of suspected food poisoning were notified during the year, but these were not confirmed.

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## MILK SUPPLY

### THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS AND THE SPECIAL DESIGNATION REGULATIONS

(1)	No. of Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
(2)	No. of licences issued to sell—							
					Dealers		Supplementary	
(a)	Tuberculin Tested Milk				18		2	
(b)	Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	27		2	
(c)	Pasturised Milk	...	...		14		2	
					<hr/> 59		<hr/> 6	

H. KELSO WATSON

Medical Officer of Health.

D. K. PEDLEY

Public Health Inspector







